

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/079 W

-----003420 201829Z /64

R 201351Z JUN 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7898  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USNMR SHAPE BEL  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISUION USUN NEW YORK  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1552

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC  
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD  
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, CY  
SUBJECT: KONUK'S RETURN TO CYPRUS

1. TFSC EX-"PRIMIN" KONUK RETURNED TO CYPRUS JUNE 14  
AFTER A 3 MONTH ABSENCE FOR "HEALTH" REASONS FOLLOWING  
HIS RESIGNATION AS PRIMIN. DURING HIS ABSENCE  
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KONUK'S FUTURE POLITICAL ROLE HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT  
OF CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION AND NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW  
EXACTLY WHAT IT WILL BE. KONUK ONLY PARTIALLY  
CLARIFIED THE SITUATION BY PROCLAIMING ON ARRIVAL  
THAT IN HIS NEW POLITICAL LIFE THERE WOULD BE "NO  
PLACE FOR PRIVATE FRIENDSHIP OF SENTIMENTALISM."  
THAT SEEMS TO INDICATE HE WILL BE IN OPPOSITION TO

THE GOVERNING NUP (HE HAS FOR ABOUT 15 YEARS BEEN DENKTASH'S RIGHT-HAND MAN). LOCAL GOSSIP SAYS HE WILL EITHER (1) FORM A NEW POLITICAL PARTY ON HIS OWN; (2) JOIN WITH FORMER NUP REHABILITATION MINISTER ISMET KOTAK (NOW INDEPENDENT) IN FORMING A NEW PARTY AND REALIGNING THE OPPOSITION; (3) JOIN THE POPULARIST PARTY HEADED BY ALPER ORHON; OR (4) AT LEAST FOR SHORT RUN HOLD HIS OWN COUNSEL.

2. THE LACK OF NUP PARLIAMENTARY COHESIVENESS THAT LEAD KONUK TO RESIGN APPARENTLY ALSO BEDEVILS PRIMIN OREK. IN A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE' AND OTHER EMBOFFS, OREK DWELT AT LENGTH ON THE ACTUAL INSTABILITY OF HIS 27 - 13 ASSEMBLY SEAT MARGIN. KONUK'S REEMERGENCE INTO THE POLITICAL SCENE COULD FURTHER DESTABILIZE OREK'S GOVERNMENT, EITHER THROUGH DEFECTIONS OR BXY CAUSING GOVERNMENT PARALYSIS ON VARIOUS ISSUES.

3. THE OPPOSITION PARTIES, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE TOO FEABLE AND DISORGANIZED TO POSE A SERIOUS IMMEDIATE THREAT TO THE NUP'S CONTINUATION IN POWER. THE REPUBLICAN TURKISH PARTY AND POPULIST PARTY RECENTLY COMPLETED THEIR NATIONAL CONGRESSES AND REELECTED THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP IN EACH PARTY, BUT REPORTS PERSIST OF CONFIDENTIAL

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DISSIDENT FACTIONS EMERGING IN BOTH PARTIES.

4. IMMEDIATE OUTLOOK IS UNCLEAR. PRESIDENT DENKTASH HAS BEEN OUT OF CYPRUS FOR TWO MONTHS AND KONUK JUST RETURNED AFTER A THREE MONTH ABSENCE. WE WOULD EXPECT NEW DEVELOPMENTS, IF ANY, TO AWAIT DENKTASH'S RETURN.  
STONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014